



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

oral tradition that most of our guides fail us. There is a divine as well as a human oral tradition, and the former is not within the province of the human mind for critical appraisal. We go to God on our knees and not with a text-book, a microscope, or book of man-made rules. But apart from this blemish in the book, the *Writing of History* is another example of how far all adaptations of Bernheim fall short. It is like buying for a few marks a replica of the Cologne Cathedral. It serves to remind us of the glorious Dom, but its practical value may be hardly higher than that of a paper-weight. Dr. Fling has already proven that he is beyond all our historical teachers best capable of giving us an authorized translation of the *Lehrbuch*. That would satisfy us; hardly anything else will, unless one is able to read the original.

PETER GUILDAY.

**A Century of Negro Migration**, by Carter Godwin Woodson. Washington: The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History.

The Negro has been termed migratory. Mr. Woodson denies this, and his denial is probably justified. Certainly there have been more extensive and more important shiftings of population among whites than among the colored. The educational and economic condition of the colored race, as well as the difference in ethnic type and the consciousness of kind have constantly operated to keep Negroes indefinitely concentrated in certain sections. This is the history of the so-called "black belts."

Still, because there is a peculiar importance to such fluctuations in Negro population as have taken place, they are worth the study. The present work is an attempt to analyze coherently the various movements of Negroes away from their traditional centers of habitation, which have been marked features at least since 1815. The recent colored migrations to the North and West have given the subject renewed interest.

Prior to the Civil War migrations were due mostly to the desire of Negroes to escape from slavery as when the French settlements in the West became places of refuge, or to philanthropy as when many fair-minded men, especially among the Quakers, transplanted numbers of Negroes to free-soil. There was also in those days some public talk of colonization, from which little that was

practical ever resulted. All this is satisfactorily traced out in Mr. Woodson's book.

Not everybody will be inclined to take the migrations so optimistically as Mr. Woodson does in many portions of his book. It is true that the freedom to move from place to place has been a large element in the building up of many societies. It has also given a good many vagabonds to the world. Mr. Woodson has common observation in his favor when he writes that the migrations of Negroes during the late war, for example, have been instrumental in proving to the South that the colored man is necessary to its economic development. But the position that the Negro has a right to expect in our community can never be permanently or sufficiently attained by playing section against section or class against class. That position must be won by the combined efforts of Negroes everywhere, efforts that show beyond a doubt that the Negro is making himself a useful member of the community and therefore entitled to the rights and privileges of the community. In this sense migration can never be any more than a means of temporary and restricted betterment.

Mr. Woodson hints at much of this in his last chapter, but it is to be regretted that he did not sketch out more vigorously and with more finality the precise part that migrations will play in Negro progress. If his message, besides giving information, was intended to include the bigger function of helping others of his race to gauge the migrations accurately, it seems that he should have done as suggested. The author even stigmatizes those Negroes who advise their fellows to remain in the South as belonging to the "sycophant and toady class." If memory is correct Booker T. Washington was one who so advised. And there are many real friends of the race who believe that the Negro will never advance to any level worth while until he obtains economic independence, and that wherever else the opportunity for such independence may lie, it is most certainly accessible in the agricultural situation of the South.

The main part of Mr. Woodson's problem lay in the unsettled condition of the Negroes during, and immediately after the Civil War. The influence of other migratory movements has been narrow and fugitive. Much of what the Negro is today and much that exists in the relations of the races can be traced back to the

days of Reconstruction. It is unfortunate that in this section of his work Mr. Woodson should have permitted his pre-occupations as an apologist to outweigh his vision as an historian. No serious student thinks of blaming to any great extent the Negroes for the disorders of 1865. But many serious persons, North and South, consider that the adjustment of Negroes to their new life after emancipation was badly managed. What most of us want to know are the effects, psychological and economic, which helped to fix the Negro in his new rôle of freedman. Instead Mr. Woodson considers it his duty to overthrow the conclusions of "prejudiced whites," which he could have afforded to ignore. He would have had ample material in the reports of officers connected with the Freedmen's Bureau. The more one reads of the troubled events of Reconstruction the more one despairs of getting at the truth in them.

As a plea for greater justice to the Negro, however, Mr. Woodson's book is convincing. The author is a colored man, a graduate of Harvard and the editor of the *Journal of Negro History*. In many things he evidences a sensible outlook on the condition and opportunities of his race. He realizes that racial progress is an achievement, yielding only to hard work and complete development in all departments of life. Unlike so many of his fellows he does not believe much in the efficacy of political action. On the whole Mr. Woodson is one of those Negroes who make us believe that the problem of the colored race is not nearly so hopeless as many have been inclined to think. His book will prove interesting.

T. B. MORONEY, S.T.D.

---

**The Fundamentals of Citizenship.** The Committee on Special War Activities, National Catholic War Council, Washington, D. C., 1919. 93 pages.

The value of this booklet is probably well indicated by the fact that more than a million copies of it have been distributed throughout the country. Its scope is sufficiently shown by the titles of the chapters. They are as follows: American Democracy, The Needs of The People, The People's Rights, Education,